

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

MARCH 21, 2016

Present: William Dominguez, Tom Tracey, Christine Edwards, Kurt Kaiser, Jim Pennington, Peter Fimognari, Brenda Payette (Administrative Assistant), Mary Lauria (Town Accountant), Evan Brassard (Town Administrator), Glenn Colburn (Conservation Commission)

Absent: Gerry Brayton, Bob Finnegan, Maureen O'Sullivan, Bob Margerison

The meeting was convened at 7:05pm

CORRESPONDENCE:

Town of Monson FY17 projections

Updated proposed budget spreadsheet

BILLS TO PAY OR TO APPROPRIATE:

None

MEETINGS MEMBERS ATTENDED:

Ms. Edwards and Mr. Tracey attended the Pathfinder budget meeting:
areas of budget makeup:

health insurance, transportation, where the aid is.

The roof repair project came in under budget. This therefore changed the dynamics of how they were getting funds.

Pathfinder is looking to have more towns join

Overall Monson's contribution increased \$37,000.

Mr. Pennington asked about the additional above net school spending. Ms. Edwards said that it is part of the budget.

Pathfinder is still in negotiations with salary, therefore this number could change.

BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS:

Financial Updates:

Mr. Brassard provided an updated FY17 projections:

shortfall \$193,197

some adjustments were found-mostly with the schools and he will look at other departments too

- new school transportation figure
- removed \$50,000 from schools energy cost line item-electricity
- looked at capital one time purchases part of the schools operating budget-this could remove about \$60,000 from operating budget.

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This could reduce schools budget \$110,000.

Raised up veteran's line item

Decreased interest on short term borrowing

Decreased diesel fuel line item

He met with the insurance provider, they will be level funded this year.

Other updates: asbestos study at Hillside is done, They should have the report soon and determine next steps.

7:30pm Glen Colburn, Conservation Commission

budget discussion

Mr. Colburn stated he tried to keep the budget to level services. Had some changes in the budget.

Modest \$50 increase in office supplies line

Would like FinCom to consider establishing a conservation land maintenance fund.

Asking to have new accounts added:

maintenance account \$2,000

salary account \$10,400- this would give someone office hours to better serve the public

Mr. Pennington asked if the fees/taxes they charge could be used to fund the salary.

Mr. Colburn said the funds being referred to are not set up this way. This would need a bylaw. Mr.

Pennington asked if other towns charge for services and could they establish a fee schedule. Mr.

Colburn responded that his understanding is to establish a fee schedule, Town Council would need to look into this.

FinCom members continued discussion:

Concern that this conservation position could potentially grow to a full time position. The benefit would be quicker services to the members of the town.

Ms. Payette will invite a member from the Planning Board to next meeting to discuss any bylaws they have planned.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda I. Payette

Administrative Assistant to the Finance Committee

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